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DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARD GRANTED TO UD PRESIDENT

DAYTON, Ohio, September, 1973 --- This year's recipient of the University of Dayton's Distinguished Alumnus Award is UD's President, Reverend Raymond A. Roesch. Fr. Roesch, who has been President since 1959, is a 1936 alumnus and a former Psychology department chairman at UD. The award will be presented at the annual National Alumni Homecoming dinner on Saturday, October 13.

Father Roesch was chosen by a selection committee consisting of three alumni and two UD administrators. The award, established in 1967 by the National Alumni Association Board and University Relations at UD, is given to an alumnus of at least 25 years, "who has been prominent in his chosen field of endeavor by reason of exceptional public service."

Among previous recipients of the award include Colonel Edward L. Buescher M.D. '45, Director of the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research, Martin J. Hillenbrand '37, Assistant Secretary of State for European Affairs, and Dr. Carroll Hochwalt, Director of the St. Louis Research Council.

In 1972, the Outstanding Service to Civic Affairs award was granted to Fr. Roesch by the American Society for Public Administration for his efforts as an educator, administrator, and civic leader to improve the "quality of life in the Miami Valley."

The U.S. Army's highest civilian award, its Distinguished Civilian Service award, was presented to Fr. Raymond Roesch for his "display of inspirational leadership, initiative and forceful determination in support of the ROTC program at UD."

Fr. Roesch is in constant demand by his peers for his services on national educational committees.

Born on September 16, 1914 in Jenkintown, Pennsylvania, Fr. Roesch graduated from the University of Dayton in 1936. He received the Master of Arts degree in Psychology from Catholic University in 1945, and the Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology in 1954 from Fordham. His priesthood preparation came at Catholic U. 1941-42, St. Meinrad Seminary, Indiana 1942-44, and he was ordained at Mount Saint John, Dayton, on May 30, 1944.

His teaching career began in Cleveland at Cathedral Latin from 1936-41 and continued from 1945-49 at Chaminade High school at Mineola, Long Island.

Joining the UD staff in 1951, Fr. Roesch taught in the Psychology department and was appointed chairman of that department the next year. He served as chairman for seven years until he was named University President in 1959 to succeed Fr. Andrew Seebold, President from 1953-59.

As President, Fr. Roesch's first main move was to set up the four major areas of administration: Academic, Student Affairs, Business Management, and Public Relations. More recently the administration has been divided into six areas, each headed by a Vice President: Administration and Planning, Student Development, University Relations, Financial Affairs, Academic Affairs, and Services.

Physical facilities built during his administration include Marycrest, Stuart Hall, and Campus South apartments, West Campus acquired from the US Government, Kennedy Union, Miriam Hall, Gosiger Health Center, the Arena, Kettering Labs, and the new library.

Major fund raising campaigns have included 1962 Combined University Campaign for \$6 million; 1965 Health Center; 1968 Kettering Challenge, \$1 million; 1970 New Horizon's Fund for \$3.3 million; 1973 Law School Campaign for \$1.1 million; and the annual Ohio Federation of Independent Colleges Campaign.



The 1960's and 70's have been a time of changing attitudes and concepts on the college campus. The questions of "What is a Catholic University?" "What are student and faculty rights?" and "What is the role of student and faculty involvement in university government?" have been faced by Fr. Roesch during his term as President.

Numerous graduate programs have been added to the curricula since 1960 as well as programs of foreign study, independent study, cooperative education, and a special office for innovative programs, the Assistant Provost's office.

A man's contributions cannot rightly be summed up in numbers of new facilities or fund raising campaigns, but rather, in this case, by the degree to which he has improved the quality of life for those in his charge. Fr. Roesch's goals for education were outlined in a speech opening the school year in 1970:

"I stress the value of education in four major areas: the development of the human person himself; the value of a person as a member of the family and society; for democracy, which can only be viable to the extent that its citizens are educated and can assume the privileges and the responsibilities of a voter's franchise; understanding, the straightening out of confusion at all levels."

"The quality of life that our young people enjoy tomorrow depends on the values accruing from formal education."